

As founder and president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, Rabbi Schneier has met with Presidents, Prime Ministers, and Foreign Ministers, as well as religious leaders in the former Soviet Union, Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Albania, Romania, Argentina, Cuba, Israel, Egypt, Morocco, Bulgaria, Germany, England, Ireland, the Vatican, and Turkey.

Since 1965, when he led a group of political and religious leaders for an Appeal of Conscience rally protesting religious repression in the Soviet Union, he has championed the cause of religious freedom around the world. After the 1965 rally, he established the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, which continues to this day to provide effective and influential leadership on behalf of human rights.

The Appeal of Conscience Foundation and Rabbi Schneier have been involved in a wide range of the world's most intractable problems and most egregious human rights violations. From meeting with Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev to discuss United States-Russian relations to meetings with Presidents of Bosnia, Serbia, and Croatia to discuss a lasting peace in that troubled region, Rabbi Schneier has taken it upon himself to provide inspirational and effective leadership that has won him worldwide praise, including the prestigious Vienna Prize.

It brings me great pleasure to rise today to honor this exceptional religious leader on the occasion of his receiving this most deserved award. I invite my colleagues to join me in expressing our appreciation for his extraordinary efforts.

#### FIGHT TERRORISM, BUT DON'T DAMAGE INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 14, 1996*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, we all have been shocked and horrified by the acts of terrorism in Oklahoma City, in New York City, in Israel, London, Tokyo, and elsewhere.

The painful loss of innocent lives leaves us with a terrible sense of vulnerability that tears away at our peace of mind.

There are laws on the books that prosecute terrorists for the violent acts they commit—the World Trade Center bombing trial and the trial that will soon get underway in Denver, CO, show us that. We should also carefully strengthen our ability to prevent these acts of terror. But this bill doesn't get us where we need to go.

As Anthony Lewis wrote Monday in the New York Times:

Terrorism has a cost beyond its menace to life and peace. A democratic society, feeling threatened, may put aside legal norms and adopt authoritarian measures. It may fear freedom.

This approach doesn't take us forward. It takes us back to the now-discredited ideas of the McCarthy Era, and even more recently, to the intimidating FBI interviews with Arab-American leaders during the gulf war about their supposed knowledge of possible terrorist activities, and to the "LA 8" case with its attendant revelation of secret Justice Department contingency plans for the mass roundup, internment, and deportation of Arab nationals.

When this bill first came to the floor, it would have given us selective prosecution, more wiretaps, more domestic counterintelligence, deportation of political asylum seekers, and secret evidence to be used in secret trials. While some of these problems have been corrected, the bill is still fatally flawed.

We are debating this issue in tense times, with the recent bombings in Israel still fresh in our minds. These were terrible tragedies, and we should respond, but we should do so with clear minds, with a view that values the liberties that so many have fought and died for over our history as a nation.

Mr. Speaker, let us not cast freedom aside and allow fear to prevail. We can do better than this bill, and we must, for our liberty and our safety depend on it.

#### WOMEN IN HEALTH CARE

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 14, 1996*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of all women in the health care field.

As the health care industry continues to change dramatically and rapidly, these professionals remain steadfast in their dedication to the well-being of the aged and infirm. They work hard to keep up with the changing market, while unfailingly remaining committed to helping the sick.

And no matter what their position, everyone contributes in an essential way. I honor the efforts made by all women in all roles in providing the best quality work toward meeting the needs of patients.

When I read today the Northern New Jersey Visiting Nurses Association's newsletter, I was reminded of the challenges facing our health care workers. Their mission: Keeping people healthy by providing quality community health service by skilled and caring individuals and promoting the health and well-being of the entire community.

Nursing in particular demands such a broad array of skills and knowledge combined with attributes of compassion and commitment. From many of the health care professionals with whom I am acquainted, I know of the extraordinary job they do at continually re-educating themselves in medicine, disease, and an ever-changing, high-technology environment, while never losing sight of their most important responsibility—the health and well-being of their patients.

This sense of duty is astonishing. I was recently told of a home health aide who during the January blizzard, when so many of us were home and safe, walked a couple of miles through 5-foot snowdrifts to care for her patient and walked home. I was told of the health workers who stayed 2 or 3 consecutive days working extra shifts at the hospital to meet the needs of patients. Mr. Speaker, I applaud them.

These are truly multitalented individuals who fill an essential role in our communities. Their job not only requires strong leadership and skill, but also a heart and soul unfamiliar to many of us. Today I rise to honor them—those individuals who help us stay healthy and serve us when in need.

#### LEGISLATION AMENDING THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 14, 1996*

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to allow professional services firms which contract with the Federal Government to pay their professional employees on an hourly basis or a salary basis, without defeating their exemption from overtime under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The FLSA exempts from overtime requirements professional employees who meet a duties test laid out by the Department of Labor's regulations under the act. Professional employees must also be paid on a salary basis, meaning that they must be paid on a salary or fee basis but not on the basis of number of hours worked. If the employee does not meet the duties test for a professional or the salary basis test, the Department of Labor and the courts have held that the employee is not exempt from overtime and therefore must be paid time-and-a-half for all hours worked over 40 within a 7-day period.

When the Federal Government contracts with private firms for professional services, most requests for proposals for such contracts require that the contractor submit bids as to the fee for the professional services that are based on hourly rates. However, because the contractor must bid the contracts on an hourly basis and, as a practical matter, calculate the pay of the professional employees working on the contract on an hourly basis, these employees may not meet the requirements for the overtime exemption under the act.

In addition to adversely affecting contractors, the salary basis requirement under the regulations can have the effect of requiring overtime pay for well-compensated, highly skilled employees, many of whom are lawyers, certified public accountants and financial analysts—simply because the employer compensates the employee on an hourly basis, as opposed to a salary basis.

This legislation will enable those firms contracting with the Federal Government to pay their employees in the manner which meets the requirements of the contract without running afoul of the FLSA.

#### EAST CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL'S OVERALL EXCELLENCE AWARD

HON. FRANK TEJEDA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 14, 1996*

Mr. TEJEDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to East Central High School, a school in my district, for being recognized by Redbook magazine for overall excellence in its America's Best Schools Project competition. East Central High School is 1 of 63 schools nationwide recognized for its overall excellence in academics and extra-curricular activities.

This distinction truly an accomplishment for which everyone connected to East Central High School should be proud. I applaud the faculty, school administrators, and staff for their dedication beyond the call of duty to provide the best education to their students. This